GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:359
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2016
Water Pollution
Singh Shri Bharat

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to review its policy and laws for checking the increasing level of water pollution in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is unable to ensure compliance of the norms laid down for treatment of industrial waste materials; and
(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to make the CPCB more effective?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a)&(b) The Ministry periodically reviews its policies for checking water pollution by notifying stricter effluent discharge standards for various industries under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The draft standards are placed in public domain for seeking comments from stakeholders including general public. The standards are reviewed from time to time to bring them in line with the advancement in process / control technologies. The standards for Sugar industries, Thermal Power Plants, Gensets and Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) have been recently revised so as to have stricter norms for pollution control. Draft standards have been notified in respect of various industrial sectors.

(c)&(d) Inspections of industries for ensuring compliance to prescribed environmental standards are carried out by the respective State Pollution Control Boards / Pollution Control Committees (SPCBs / PCCs). In addition, CPCB carries out inspection of industries. Based on inspection, appropriate actions are taken, including issuing of directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to non-compliant industries and issuance of directions under Section 18(1)(b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 / Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to the respective SPCBs / PCCs to direct industries to take corrective measures.

CPCB has initiated action for installation of real time effluent and emission monitoring systems in the 17 category of highly polluting industries for further strengthening compliance mechanism. CPCB has also strengthened its activities by adoption of information technology and capacity building in the field of pollution abatement and control. Regular training is imparted to the Scientists of CPCB in order to keep pace with the emerging and new trends in the field of pollution control.
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